IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/698,920

Applicant(s)

Daniel C. Conrad, et al.

Filed

October 31, 2003

T.C./A.U.

1**751**

Examiner

Amina S. Khan

Docket No.

: US19984054-8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being mailed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Name

Date

: Fileen T. Mathews

Signature:

: March 11, 2008

(31480.3)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Declaration Under 37 § C.F.R. 1.131

Dear Sir:

I, one of the inventors, hereby declare as follows:

- I am a named co-inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention as above mentioned. This U.S. Application Serial No. 10/698,920 was filed on October 31, 2003. This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/027,160 which was filed on December 20, 2001, and U.S. Application Serial No. 10/027,431 filed on December 20, 1998, which claim the benefit of the earlier filing date of provisional patent application 60/045,072 filed on April 29, 1997. I have reviewed the subject matter of provisional application 60/045,072 and can attest that the subject matter of the Applicants' independent claims are supported by the Application. As such, the pending Application Serial No. 10/698,920 has an earliest effective filing late of April 29, 1997.
- In the Office Action dated September 11, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) rejected claims 1-13, and 24-37 under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Flynn et al., US Patent No. 5,962,390, filed on May 17, 1996 and issued on October 5, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/573,416 filed on December 15, 1995, and which claims the benefit of application no. 08/375,812, filed on January 20, 1995, now abandoned, (hereinafter "Flynn et al."), and in view of each of the secondary

references, Dickey, et al. (US 3,410,118), De Pas et al. (US 3,163,028), Tatch et al. (US 5,431,827) and Krugmann (US 4,252,546).

- 3. Claims 1-13, and 24-37 of Application Serial No. 10/698,920 which have a priority date of April 29, 1997 are not obvious over Flynn et al., in view of the secondary references.
- 4. Per applicable U.S. patent law, Flynn et al. 5,962,390 has an effective 102(e) date of May 17, 1996 (the filing date).
- 5. This written document is a declaration of prior invention to antedate the cited reference of Flynn et al. 5,962,390. I, an Inventor of the subject matter of the rejected claims, hereby submit this declaration to overcome this reference. I performed certain acts described below.

I. Showing of Facts Through Document Evidence

- 6. Below are facts that show a conception of the invention on or before the May 17, 1996 filing date of Flynn et al. 5,962,390 coupled with due diligence from such conception to a subsequent actual reduction to practice or to the provisional application filing date of 29 April 1997.
- 7. Exhibit A and Exhibit B were previously submitted in an Affidavit which I executed on January 2, 2007 and was filed on March 2, 2007 along with a Response to Office Action dated November 2, 2005. Exhibits C, D, E, F, and G are submitted herewith and were created to summarize a brainstorming session prior to May 17, 1996. Exhibit H is evidence of the Exhibits stored in the "Whirlpool Information Network" showing the dates these documents were inputted into the network. Exhibit I is also submitted herewith and is a report dated August 15, 1996 of a laboratory study for research which was initiated pr or to May 17, 1996.
- 8. Exhibit H shows the digitized records saved on the Whirlpool Information Network. The information is controlled digitized evidence which is password protected for read-only access. The "Date Composed" is the dates the specific documents were saved in the network following the brainstorming session. Exhibit H shows that the dates Exhibits C, D, E, F and G were saved to the network were on March 1, 1996, March 7, 1996 and May 6, 1996 and prior to May 17, 1996.
- 9. Exhibit I is a Report 517720-005 entitled "Detersive Properties of Hydrocarbons, Fluorocarbons and Microemulsions" of a study which determined the detersive properties of various compounds such as alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters, fluorocarbons, ketones, and terpenes. The report of Exhibit I discusses the background concerns of dry cleaning compounds that were traditionally used as well as the test set-up, fabric washing methods and results.

Several fabric types were laundered in a simulated washing machine, a tergotometer and tested for reactivity with the various fabrics.

A. Facts establishing conception

10. In general, the facts of Exhibits C, D, E, F, G, H ard I are hereby incorporated by reference. Moreover, I present the following facts to establish a conception of the invention before the May 17, 1996 Flynn et al. filing date.

(i) Conception

- 11. The basic inventive concept of the application is the fluid composition used in non-aqueous laundering.
- 12. The USPTO presents Flynn et al. as teaching a variety of solvents suitable for dry cleaning applications which also meets the properties required of Applicants' working fluid. However, as explained in the contemporaneously filed Respon e to non-final Office Action dated March 11, 2008, Flynn et al. do not disclose a wash liquor for laundering a fabric load in an automatic laundering apparatus. Flynn et al. is directed to cleaning substrates, primarily metal and does not teach wash liquor compositions for cleaning fabric loads. Flynn et al. do not disclose a bulk fluid that is inert and having the properties as claimed for use in an automatic laundering apparatus.
- 13. The details of previously submitted Exhibit A and contemporaneously submitted Exhibits C, D, E, F, G and H support conception of the claimed invention and show "Project Hope" encompasses non-aqueous working fluid chemistries. Thus, the scope of this declaration is commensurate with the scope of the claimed subject matter.
- Particularly, Exhibit C shows the Domain of Fabric Laundering through discussion ideas concerning bulk fluid "Chemistry", "Machine Characteristics and Structure" and "Cycles/Processes". The Venn Diagram shows that Project Hope was concerned with researching non-reactive, inert bulk fluids which included fluoroinerts, FI, and yet possessed properties were outside the domain or "space" of the traditional bulk fluids, namely, water, perc, and carbon dioxide which were "reactive" bulk cleaning fluids possessing relatively high Kauri-Butanol values for cleaning ability. We conceived a wash liquor for cleaning a load of fabric ir an automatic laundering apparatus, for example a home laundering unit, and that such cleaning can be accomplished through mechanical cleaning where the "bull" of the wash liquor is inert and substantially less portion of the wash liquor is additives. We conceived and determined that it would not be required that bulk dry-cleaning fluids of the wash liquor possess the reactive properties of chemicals know to be used in dry cleaning at that time. Fluoroinerts have a Kauri-Butanol value less than 30 and are relatively non-reactive to know 1 bulk fluids of dry-cleaning wash liquors. The perc compounds replaced earlier low flash point hydrocarbons for nonaqueous dry-cleaning and this is well documented in dry-cleaning literature. Although some of the hydrocarbon compounds were considered "non-reactive" and having relatively low KB

values, these "oleophilic" compounds which were already replaced by perc we conceived of "non-oleophilic" compounds. Therefore the desired "non-aqueous", "apolar" bulk dry-cleaning fluids were to be inert or "non-reactive" to several fabrics and also compatible with additives such as oxygen bleach, detergents which include fragrance, co-solvents, enzymes, etc. Such bulk fluid chemistries were considered in conjunction with in-home washing machine equipment and various wash cycles and processes as indicated by the topic headings of Exhibit C and which were discussed in the brainstorming session of Project Hope.

- 15. Exhibit D lists the characteristics of fluoroinerts which were relevant in developing testing protocol.
- 16. Exhibit E lists the potential property characteristics (i.e. "FuFu") of the desired "non-aqueous", "non-reactive", "non-oleophilic" and "apolar" working fluids for use in a laundering method in an automatic laundering apparatus. Exhibit F shows that the desired inert working fluid is defined as "does no cleaning" and "fabric stability" which was outside the scope of the known compounds for wash liquors which cleaned fabric loads at the time.
- 17. The previously filed Exhibits A and B pertaining to Project Hope also illustrates desired characteristics of the inert working fluid chemistries and the various characteristics of an exemplary non-aqueous working fluid and that hundreds of compounds were selected for further testing and that several were currently being bench tested. Exhibit B listed some of the testing protocols.
- 18. Exhibit G is a table of several compounds which were evaluated. Exhibit H shows the document of Exhibit G is entitled "Updated Non-Aqueous Matrix" which was composed (i.e. entered into the network) on May 6, 1996.

(ii) Effective date of Flynn et al.

19. As indicated on the face of the Flynn et al. patent, issued on October 5, 1999, and has a section 102(e) date (filing date) of May 17, 1996. Accordingly, the date to overcome is May 17, 1996.

(iii) On or before the effective date of Flynn et al.

20. I allege that the acts relied upon to establish the date on or before May 17, 1996. The testing and the exhibits attached were generated prior to the effective date of Flynn et al.

B. Facts establishing reduction to practice

21. In general, the facts of Exhibits C, D, E, F and G are hereby incorporated by reference. Moreover, I present the following facts to establish a reduction to practice.

(i) Actual reduction to practice

- 22. After conception of the invention on or before May 17, 1996, I tested or had the invention tested to establish its capacity to successfully perform its intended purpose. Previously filed Exhibit B represents an invention testing protocol/assessment that discusses the experiments that would be run during a period starting before May 17, 1996 and into later parts of 1996. Contemporaneously submitted Exhibit I explain the background, testing methods and results of several non-aqueous inert fluids which could be used for laundering fabrics in an automatic laundering apparatus.
- 23. Previously filed Exhibit A and contemporaneously filed Exhibits C, D, E, F, G and H show information generated and dated prior to May 17, 1996 that show the many chemicals that were currently used in the industry and which were not subject of the desired compounds of the invention, and also, that of the many chemicals that exhibited some of the desired characteristics, several were chosen as candidates. Several candidates were benchtop tested.

(ii) Constructive reduction to practice

- 24. I allege that the present application for a U.S. patent recites independent claims of the same invention disclosed in the provisional application filed or April 29, 1997.
 - 25. Therefore, constructive reduction to practice was achieved on April 29, 1997.

C. Facts establishing reasonable diligence

- 26. I present the following facts to establish that there was reasonable diligence from before the May 17, 1996 effective date of Flynn et al. to the actual reduction to practice of the invention or alternatively to the provisional filing date.
- As noted above, conception occurred on or before the May 17, 1996 filing date of Flynn et al. Moreover, actual reduction to practice occurred on or before April 29, 1997. I assert that there was reasonable diligence from conception to reduction to practice, either actual or constructive. Exhibits C, D, E, F and G indicate that several inert working fluids were outside the scope of known reactive dry-cleaning fluids, and that such inert non-aqueous, non-reactive, non-oleophilic, and apolar working fluids were selected as having desirable characteristics and these chemicals were submitted for further bench testing. The characteristics were counter-intuitive of the characteristics of known dry-cleaning wash liquors used on fabric loads in an automated laundering apparatus. As Exhibits C, D, E, F, G, H and I show, I was cognizant of the need to pursue patent applications to protect the invention. The inventors timely filed a provisional patent application on April 29, 1997. The selection of chemicals, the experiments, conducted throughout 1996 and the actual filing of a patent application indicate a reasonable diligence period from on or before the Flynn et al. filing date.

28. Alternatively, the time period taken for the completion of the application constitutes reasonable diligence. During this time period, I and/or our representative worked reasonably hard and expeditiously to prepare, execute and file a patent application in the United States Patent Office. Accordingly, there was reasonable diligence from on or before the Flynn et al. filing date to the filing of the application of the present invention.

II. Allegations and other Statements

29. I allege that the acts relied upon to establish the date on or before Flynn et al. were carried out in the United States.

III. Signature and Declaration in Lieu of Oath Under 37 CFR 1.68

30. I hereby declare that the statements made of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I acknowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or patent issuing thereon.

Tremitchell Wright

Dad

11/08

EXHIBIT C

Chemistry

Alternative to FI

Additives

- Oxygen bleach .
- Detergents (non-traditional surfactants)
- Enzymes
- Brighteners
- Co-solvents
- 2 Phase cleaning

Solutions -

Cq FI and C0

FI and H₂0

Machine Characteristics, Structures

- Recovery
- Ventilation
- Containment
- Mechanical Input
- Dispensing
- Thermal Input
- Geometry of Fabric (hanging, batch vs. continuous drying in bag)
- Footprint

Cycles/Process

- Water followed by FI
- Mist
- Emulsion Wash
- Dry Cycle

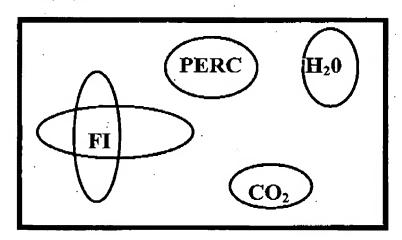


EXHIBIT D

Characteristics

KNOWN	UNKNOWN
FI not available at commercial prices	Fiber damage unknown
Displacement of H ₂ 0	Dye transfer unl.nown -
Low vapor pressure - need to avoid leaks	Quality of "grade" needed unknown
Osmotic gradients	Variability of molecule size effects drying rate, surface tension rate, surface tension
Low viscosity speeds penetration of fabric	Dielectric characteristics might reduce static or also allow control charge density of contaminants or can the charge surfactants
Broad range of FI's available	Unknown FI reactivity with additives
Cavitation in pumps	Solvency of particular soils unknown
FI is considered environmentally safe, non-toxic	FI non-polar might limit shrinkage of wool
pH neutral	Sanitization effect unknown
FI's have a wide range of vapor pressures - allows flexibility of heating characteristics	
FI absorbs oxygen so may facilitate oxy bleaches.	
Sensors for leaks exists.	
FI is easily recyclable and disposable (except reactivity unknown)	

EXHIBIT E

Potential FuFu Charectoristics

- Low surface tension less than 1/2 of H₂0 with detergent (15 d mes /cm²) at STP (or at operating condition)
- Viscosity < H₂0 [1 N/M]
- Minimum solubility in water (<10%)
- Density different by more than ±10% from H₂0 (at operating condition)
- pH Neutral [6.5 7.5]
- Non-reactive with bleach? (Highly non-reactive)
- Minimal solvency of oil soil
- Carries enzymes and bleach without restricting their activity (redox potential >y) (enzyme 1/2 life >y)
- low vapor pressure> 7 1/2 at m.

Project HOPE

EXHIBIT F



Meeting Notes for Non Aqueous Development Needs

4 For inital patent work go with FI technology

Make a mixture (Solution will be multi-component

Decision Matrix for Evaluation

- Define IWF

Co-Solvent or Detergent for IWF

1 We define inert as:

- Does no cleaning

Fabric Stability

The greatest Area of Concern/Potential is the recovry/rinse,separation,disposal - ex. Rynex is misible with H2O so old gravity PERC cleaner is not

EXHIBIT G

PROPERTIES

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EXHIBIT H



Edit

Type of Report:

WIN Summary HOPE, 1996 - 1998

Project Number: Report Date: 03/01/1996

Title:

Authors:

Databasc

Location: Product Category: Research & Engineering Project Data

Technical Category:

Notes Databases

Related Materials:

Contains 137 documents from 1996-1998

Report:

This db was for non-aqueous wash system development. Project leaders were Dan Coi rad and Mark Kovich. Other team members included Earl Meister and Tre Wright.

Topics included chemicals tested, Cleaning potential of Triton GR-7M surfactant, Fine Chemical Report for Project Athena, Experimental Results and Analysis of Displacement Fluids for Drying, Petroferm chemicals, and Oxiclear Gas Purifiers and Filters.

Team members can open the database with this link - Category View. It will ask you to authenticate with your userid and http/Domino password (REEP). If you do not have access to this database and would like more information, contact one of the names listed above or Gloria Begor at the Technical Information Center. From the Notes client this db can be found on ADCNSI in the directory/folder 'projects'.

- Whirlpool Confidential -

Entered to 02/10/2003 by Sully II Politick/BentonFlarbor/JS/E/Wildpool Not yet edited by anyone other than the Author

C2C stage: Ideation

Project Number:

Document Author: Daniel C Conrad

Date Composed: 03 01/1996

Subject*: Category*;

G.N.A.W. the majic "FuFu" dust Presentations & Communications

Sub-Category: Intellectual Property

If other, indicate here:

Text of Topic:

Presentation put together by Steve Krefman on the issues related to "Fu Fu" in the arena of

General Non Aqueous Wash (GNAW)



File Attachments (after viewing, use the Back arrow to return to this screen) Attachment Types:

Entered by Daniel C Conrad 01-Mar-96 at 05:20 PM

C2C stage: Ideation

Project Number:

Document Author: Daniel C Conrad

Date Composed: 03/07/1996

Subject*:

FuFu Brainstroming Notes

Category*:

Ideation History

Sub-Category: Brainstorm Notes

If other, indicate here:

Text of Topic: Project HOPE initation brainstroming notes by Steve Krefman

FUFU_DQC

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Fintered by Daniel C Coprad 07-Mar-96 at 04:19 PM

C2C stage: Ideation

Project Number:

Document Author: Mark B. Kovich

Date Composed: 05.06/1996

Updated Non-Aqueous Matrix

Category*:

Environmental Scan

Sub-Category: Chemistry

If other, indicate here:

Text of Topic: This is the updated version of the matrix, I will cor tinue to update this as more

information becomes available.



File Attachments (after viewing, use the Back arrow to return to this screen) Attachment Types: Excel

Borered by Mark B. Kovich 06-May-96 at 09:55 AM

C2C stage: Ideation

Project Number:

Document Author: Catherine Tong

hor: Catherine Tong Date Composed: 09/04/1996
Detersive Properties of Hydrocarbons, Fluorocarbons, and Microemulsions

Category*: Test Results

Sub-Category: Testing

If other, indicate here:

Text of Topic: This is report 517720-005.





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File Attachments (after viewing, use the Back arrow to return to this screen)

Attachment Types: Word, Excel

Entered by Catherine Tong 04-Sep-96 at 10:13 AM

EXHIBIT I



CORPORATE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT L SUNDRY APPLICATIONS The Elisha Gray II Research and Engineering Center 750 Monte Road Benton Harbor, Michigan

TITLE:

Detersive Properties of Hydrocarbons, Fluorocarbons, and

Microemulsions

DATE:

15 August, 1996

PROJECT#:

517720-005

BY:

Catherine Tong Mark Kovich

Tremitchell Wright

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

Dr. Daniel Conrad Steve Krefman

Technical Information Center

Report 517720-00:i

Summary

The purpose of this investigation is to discover a water replacement as well as a cleaning agent that can be used in a non-aqueous wash process. Table 1 displays a list of the variety of fluids from different chemical families that were tested. These include alcohols, carboxylic acids, estert, fluorocarbons, ketones, terpenes, and microemulsions. The fluids were evaluated based on the wash performance on selected swatches. A matrix of the fluids and the observations from each test can be found in Table 2. Figures 2-4 show the wash performance of the various fluids. The numerical results of the tests can be found in Tables 3-4.

From the observations and testing generated so far, the fluorinated compounds are likely candidates for a water replacement. However, the compounds have demonstrated interior detersive performance to Tide. Neat solutions which are ones that are only composed of one chemical compound are not necessarily the way to go. Because of the complexity of different types of stains and soil: a cosolvent or multicomponent mixture containing an inert working fluid will most likely be needed in the non-aqueous cleaning process to achieve all fabric care.

Background

Environmental and health concerns have increased regarding chlorinated solvents such as perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, methylene chloride, and 1,1,1-trichloroethane. In 1987, the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed to prote it the stratospheric ozone layer. The treaty specifies that the production and consumption of chlorofluorocarbons, halons, and carbon tetrachloride are to be phased out by the year 2000. Scientific evidence suggests that these compounds deplete the ozone layer that shields the planet from damaging UV-B radiation. Therefore, new non-ozone depleting, nontoxic, and low global warming potential cleaning agents that work as well as the chlorinated solvents if not better have been the focus of research in the cleaning industr.

In the dry cleaning industry, perchloroethylene is used as the preferred solvent for delicate fabrics. Research has been centered on finding better recovery systems for this fluid so that it doesn't leak into the atmosphere as well as searching for alternative chemistries that can be used a the dry cleaning system. For example, prototype CO₂ dry-cleaning processes have been documented. Now solvents that are discovered for washing garments could also be used in wash systems for the home.

The ultimate goal of the non-aqueous wash project is the "perfect care of all abrics requiring no time and effort." Therefore, many different types of fabrics were used in the testing of the detersive properties of the fluids. The swatches used include AS-9 Cotton, PC-9 Blend, Clay, Wool, Sinc, Nylon, and Rayon. Most of the testing was done on the AS-9 Cotton since only a limited amount of certain fluids was available. AS-9

is a cotton swatch that is soiled with pigment oil. PC-9 is a polyester/cotton blend that is also soiled with pigment oil. The Clay is a cotton swatch that is soiled with a bandy blick research clay. The Woo!, Silk, Nylon, and Rayon are swatches that are soiled with dust sebum. Testing the detersive properties of the fluids on these various swatches will help evaluate the vision of the nor-aqueous wash project. However, the remaining portion of the report will focus mostly on differences see I using AS-9.

The purpose of this investigation is to identify chemistries that can be u ed in the non-aqueous wash process for home use. The non-aqueous wash process is washing without water. Water can cause swelling of the fibers within the fabric and damage the garment. The discovery of a water replacement as well as a cleaning agent is the focus of the investigation. A variety of fluids from different chemical families were tested. These include alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters, fluorocarbons, I etones, terpenes, and microemulsions. These fluids were picked based on safety reasons as well as on information obtained from scientific literature. Most of the fluids have a relatively high flash point which is the lowest temperature at which vapors above a volatile combustible substance ignite in air when exposed to flame. Some of the fluids like the hydrofluoroethers have already been used in the metal cleaning industry. Compounds with a low vapor pressure, low viscosity, or a low surface tension were also considered. Benefits of these characteristics are as follow; a low vapor pressure fluid dries quickly. A low viscosity and a low surface tension fluid can speed up the wetting of the fabric during the wash proce a and may promote particulate soil removal. A list of the various compounds along with the chemical families to which they belong is in Table 1.

Test Setup

In this test, there were basically two methods used to find the detersive properties of the fluids. The first test involved using a tergotometer which models a washing machine. The Ergotometer has a vertical axis that twists clockwise and counterclockwise and was set to agitate at 100 sp us per minute. The containers of the tergotometer were sealed by screws around the perimeter of the cover, and reflux condensers were placed in a hole on the cover to condense any vapors from the fluids. Five swatches were agitated in one liter of fluid in the machine for five minutes

The second test was done in beakers. Some of the fluids could only be ordered in quantities smaller than the volume of the tergotometer. Since this was the case, some fluids were it sted in beakers with swatches washed one at a time under a time hood. The swatches were stirred in the leakers in a way similar to the rotation of the tergotometer axis for five minutes. The detailed procedure of the test method is located in Figure 1.

Results

All results are reported in Delta Y values and are compared to the baseline value obtained from testing with Tide. As a rule of thumb, a Delta Y value of three or greater can usually be visible. Besides washability, other observations include drying times, odors, and fabric damage as noted. A matrix of the fluids and the observations from each test can be found in Table 2. The numerical results of the tests can be found in Tables 3-4.

Washability

Fluorinert was the only compound besides Tide that was tested with all seven types of swatches. It is a fluorinated compound produced by 3M. Fluorinert performs inferior to 7 ide. Figure 2 compares these two fluids in their washing capabilities.

Most of the testing was done on the AS-9 Cotton swatches since most fluids were not available in substantial amounts. Figure 3 shows the Delta Y values of the tergotome or test with the fluids grouped according to their respective chemical families. With this method, the fluids that performed the closest to Tide were the Inverts. Inverts are microemulsions developed by Dow that are 50% water and 50% solvents and surfactants. All other fluids tested with this method did not perform up to Tide's standards. The alcohol, ether, ketones, one of the carboxylic acids, and one of the fluoring ted compounds performed similar in their Delta Y values to each other. Triton X-100 caused a negative Delta Y value. This might be due to residues or splotches left on the swatch after a significantly long drying period.

Due to insufficient volumes of fluid, a beaker test was used to evaluate AS 9 swatches. Of the fluids tested in this manner, only Tarksol, an aqueous degreaser from Terpene Technologies, with a water rinse performed similar to Tide. All other fluids tested performed inferior to Tide. The terpenes had varying ability to clean fabrics. The fluorinated compounds performed inferior to the esters, terpenes, and one of the carboxylic acids. The other carboxylic acid, diethyl dodecanedioate, resulted in a negative Delta Y value. Again, this might be due to residues or splotches left on the swatch. Perhaps a solvent rinse or increased temperatures would speed up the drying process and not leave residues on the swatches. The results are shown in Figure 4.

Drying Times

Drying times are also an important observation from these tests. The swatches were mostly hung dry in the fume hood with the exception of the Tide and Pluorinert which were laid flatto dry. Quick drying times can mean faster laundry cycle times for the consumer as well as less energy used. The ability to dry quickly can somewhat be attributed to a physical property of the fluid called vapor pressure. A fluid with a low vapor pressure has the ability to evaporate quickly and efficiently, causing the fabric to dry almost immediately after the wash. The compounds with this property are the fluor carbons. Some other fluids

like 2-pentanone and a-terpinene dry relatively quickly as well when compared to water. The remaining fluids require drying times from two hours to two days. Figure 5 shows a nectrum of these drying times.

Fabric Damage

Because any damage to the garment cause by washing with solvents would not be beneficial to the consumer, a preliminary fabric damage assessment is necessary. Indications of fabric damage include fraying at the edges of the swatch and no retainment of the texture of the fabric. With respect to the swatches washed in Fluorinert, there doesn't appear to be any fabric damage, not even to wool. Tide caused substantial fraying of the wool swatches. As to the AS-9 cotton swatches, I one of them seem to be damaged from a visual inspection.

Odors

Many of the fluids have different odors associated with them. The various mells might have to be masked by perfumes or other agents during the wash process. One group without any odors are the fluorocarbons. Most of the fluids emit bad odors, but some of them exhibit a fruity smell. These include the terpenes such as the Inverts and the Invert Detergents, which are produced from natural products like citrus and pine oils,

Conclusion

From the observations and testing generated so far, the fluorinated compour is are likely candidates for a water replacement. They can be considered good inert working fluids which are ones that show little or no detersive properties and do not cause swelling of the fibers in the fabric. They are non-reactive with any chemicals or with the garment. With the limited number of tests performed, the compounds have demonstrated inferior detersive performance to Tide. Neat solutions which are ones that are only composed of one chemical compound are not necessarily the way to go. Because of the complexity of different types of stains and soils, a cosolvent or multicomponent mixture containing an ine t working fluid will most likely be needed in the non-aqueous cleaning process to achieve all fabric care.

There are many other experiments that are needed to fully evaluate a fluid fo use in the non-aqueous wash process. Some further testing such as surface tension, dimensional stability of the swatch, and the solvency of the fluid can provide more insight into the potential for a home non-aqueous wash system.

Figure 1

Test Methods

Detersive Evaluation. Two types of tests were used in determining the detersive properties of the fluids. Test I was done in the tergotometer while Test II was done in beakers. The swatches used include AS-9 Cotton, PC-9 Blend, Clay, Wool, Silk, Nylon, Rayon, and CS-4 Oily.

Tergotometer Test (for Tide)

- 1. Read 5 swatches of one type on the colorimeter.
- 2. Add 1L of water at a given temperature and 4 ml of Tide into a tergotometer container.
- 3. Place the 5 swatches into the container.
- 4. Agitate for 5 minutes at 100 spm.
- 5. Rinse the swatches in 70°F water for 5 minutes.
- 6. Remove the swatches and air dry.
- 7. Read swatches on the colorimeter.
- 8. Repeat the procedure 2 more times at the given temperature.
- 9. Repeat the procedure at three temperatures: 70°F, 100°F, and 140°F

Tergotometer Test (for other non-aqueous fluids)

- 1. Read 5 swatches of one type on the colorimeter.
- 2. Add 1L of fluid into a tergotometer container.
- 3. Place the 5 swatches into the container.
- 4. Agitate for 5 minutes at 100 spm and at 70°F.
- 5. Remove the swatches and hang dry in the fume hood.
- 6. Read swatches on the colorimeter.
- 7. Repeat the procedure 2 more times if enough fluid.

Beaker Test

- 1. Read 5 swatches of one type on the colorimeter. A
- 2. Add 50 ml of fluid into a beaker.
- 3. Place I swatch into the beaker.
- 4. Stir with a stirring rod for 5 minutes.
- 5. Remove the swatch and hang dry in the fume hood.
- Repeat the procedure 4 more times.
- 7. Read the swatches on the colorimeter.